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(71) Applicant (for AE, AG, AU, BB, BW, BZ, CA, CY, EG, GB, GD, GH, GM, IE, IL, KE, LC, LK, LS, MN, MW, NA, NZ, OM, PG, SC, SD, SG, SL, SZ, TT, TZ, UG, VC, ZA, ZM, ZW only): **UNILEVER PLC** [GB/GB]; Unilever House, Blackfriars, London Greater London EC4P 4BQ (GB).

(71) Applicant (for AL, AM, AT, AZ, BA, BE, BF, BG, BJ, BR, BY, CF, CG, CH, CI, CM, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, FR, GA, GE, GN, GQ, GR, GW, HR, HU, ID, IS, IT, JP, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LR, LT, LU, LV, MA, MC, MD, MG, MK, ML, MR, MX, MZ, NE, NI, NL, NO, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SE, SI, SK, SN, SY, TD, TG, TJ, TM, TN, TR, UA, UZ, VN, YU only): **UNILEVER NV** [NL/NL]; Weena 455, NL-3013 AL Rotterdam (NL).

(71) Applicant (for IN only): **HINDUSTAN LEVER LIMITED** [IN/IN]; Hindustan Lever House, 165/166 Backbay Reclamation, Maharashtra, Mumbai 400 020 (IN).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **COOPER, Andrew, Ian** [GB/GB]; University of Liverpool, Department of Chemistry, Crown Street, Liverpool Merseyside CH69 3BX (GB). **DUNCALF, Duncan** [GB/GB]; Unilever R & D Port Sunlight, Quarry Road East, Bebington, Wirral

Merseyside CH63 3JW (GB). **FOSTER, Alison, Jayne** [GB/GB]; Unilever R & D Port Sunlight, Quarry Road East, Bebington, Wirral Merseyside CH63 3JW (GB). **RANNARD, Stephen, Paul** [GB/GB]; Unilever R & D Port Sunlight, Quarry Road East, Bebington, Wirral Merseyside CH63 3JW (GB). **HAIFEI, Zhang** [GB/GB]; University of Liverpool, Department of Chemistry, Crown Street, Liverpool Merseyside CH69 3BX (GB).

(74) Agents: **ELLIOTT, Peter, William** et al.; Unilever Intellectual Property Group, Patent Department, Colworth House, Sharnbrook, Bedford Bedfordshire MK44 1LQ (GB).

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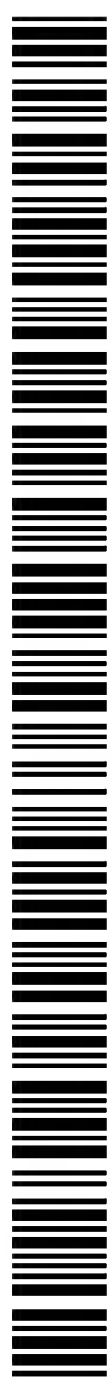
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(54) Title: POROUS MATERIALS AND METHOD OF PRODUCTION THEREOF

(57) Abstract: Water dispersible or water soluble porous bodies which are soluble or dispersible in non-aqueous media comprising a three dimensional open-cell lattice containing 10 to 95% by weight of a polymeric material which is soluble in water, and, less than 5% by weight of a surfactant, said porous bodies having an intrusion volume as measured by mercury porosimetry (as hereinafter described) of at least about 3 ml/g, and, with the proviso that said porous bodies are not spherical beads having an average bead diameter of 0.2 to 5mm. And a method for making the same comprising the steps of: providing an intimate mixture of the polymeric material and any surfactant in a liquid medium: providing a fluid freezing medium at a temperature effective for rapidly freezing the liquid medium; cooling the liquid medium with the fluid freezing medium at a temperature below the freezing point of the liquid medium for a period effective to rapidly freeze the liquid medium; and freeze-drying the frozen liquid medium to form the porous bodies by removal of the liquid medium by sublimation.



WO 2005/073296 A2